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ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF

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NEWS RELEASE

HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK

For Immediate Release
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The Rock County Sheriff's Office would like to advise the citizens of Rock County of the approaching hazardous weather outlook for our area. Starting this afternoon, there will be a 40 percent chance of snow and freezing rain.

This evening freezing rain and sleet will continue until midnight, then snow and additional rain and sleet. Chance of precipitation is 90 percent with accumulation to reach 0.01 to 0.3 inches possible.

On Tuesday morning, there will be additional snow and heavy winds. Temperatures will fall to 26 degrees by 5 p.m. Chance of precipitation is 100 percent with snow accumulation estimated at 3 to 7 inches. Snow could be heavy at times.

As always, the Rock County Sheriff's Office advises all motorists to check weather conditions before traveling and to be properly prepared for winter conditions.

Below are some tips for winter driving:

If it is absolutely necessary to travel, be sure to:

1. Leave early and allow for plenty of extra drive time for any necessary travel.
2. Travel at slow speeds and well below the speed limit.
3. Establish and increased safety zone distance between you and the vehicle you are following, especially snowplow and road salt trucks.
4. Maintain control by making slow, deliberate corrections in direction or speed.
5. Anticipate hazards ahead and take corrective action early.
6. Use extreme caution if you attempt to pass slow moving traffic – snow and slush that accumulates between the lanes may cause you to lose control.
7. Allow for considerable extra time and distance when stopping.
8. Bridges and overpasses may be iced over well before the adjacent roadways.
9. Conditions may change quickly and unpredictably, especially when transitioning to different roadways (interstate vs. state highway vs. county highway vs. town roads vs. city streets and boulevards), different road surfaces, and when crossing jurisdictional boundaries.
10. Keep your gas tank full should you get stuck and need to stay warm, and be sure to keep the area around the muffler clear when running the car while you're stranded.

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11. Carry emergency supplies such as a flashlight, flares, jumper cables, a shovel, tow-strap, blankets, warm clothing and appropriate footwear.
12. Don't forget to bring your cell phone along should you get stranded.

Drivers should understand that winter weather emergencies often strain government resources and delay the response of all emergency service providers, including police, fire/EMS, snowplows/salt trucks and towing companies. Injury accidents will take priority over run-offs and stalled vehicles, and the response delay in those circumstances may be long.

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By: Lt. Gary L. Groelle